

Attorney Docket No.: 18733/00040

GAU 3682
A Jones
IDS
#2 07/09/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re

U.S. Application of: Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO, and
Yasushi WATANABE

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HOLLOW RACK
SHAFT

U.S. Serial No. 09/803,560

Filed: March 9, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3682

Examiner: To Be Assigned

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Dear Sir:

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JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. Williams

Signature

APRIL 23, 2001

Date of Signature

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following item to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The reference cited below is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the item listed below is properly citable against the above-identified application.

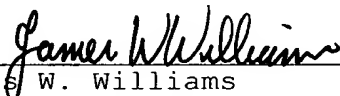
Serial No. 09/803,560

- (1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No.
(A) 05-345231 (SUMITOMO METAL IND LTD), published
December 27, 1993.

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable
over the above-cited document.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed
within three months of the filing date or before the mailing
date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs
last, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a
fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than
the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to
Sidley & Austin's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,



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